

Give back to society, PM urges youths

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PUTRAJAYA, Wed: Students who have benefited from the help of society by enjoying excellent education are obliged to give back to society, so that future generations continue to enjoy similar privileges.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said this at a lunch with 207 top SPM scorers at Putrajaya today.

He reminded youths that

they are bound to serve society and the nation that allowed them to study and work in a stable, peaceful environment.

"You have been able to attain your success due to the environment that is stable and peaceful, and it is up to you to provide the same for the next generation.

"Thus, we have to try and pay our dues to society, especially when it comes to government money.

"But remember, it is not just about money; it is also about repaying our debts to

others," he said.

Mahathir added that students must always have a sense of responsibility.

He said even if the students take up offers abroad when they have completed their studies, they should channel the gains back to the country.

"You might get offers from foreigners promising higher salaries, and you can make all the money you want, but make sure you bring it (money) back here.

"I might not be around by the year 2020 when you are

working, but I will still be hovering around to see if you do your part," he quipped, tongue-in-cheek.

The SPM high achievers are the top scorers out of the more than 2,000 who obtained straight As in last year's SPM.

Mahathir urged them to put their intelligence to good use, namely to keep up with the rapid changes and demands in the technology field.

The lunch, the first of its kind, was hosted by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.